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A. Aerial stems evergreen, sometimes freezing down to the ground in severe winters, rough to a greater or less degree; cones tipped with a rigid point.

B. Stems bright green; sheaths cylindrical, not dilated upward, usually with two black bands, sometimes entirely black; stems rough, tuberculate; not American.

1. *EQUISETUM HYEMALE* L.⁵

B. Stems yellowish green; sheaths elongated, dilated upward, with a narrow black band at the top and frequently with a second irregular one below; stems smoothish, only slightly tuberculate; widely distributed in America.

2. *EQUISETUM LAEVIGATUM* A. Br.⁶

A. Aerial stems annual, smooth; cones without a point; stems usually unbranched, except when broken; sheaths elongated, dilated upward, with a narrow black band at the top, rarely with a faint second one below; western and southern United States.

3. *EQUISETUM KANSANUM* Schaffner⁷

COURTNEY, Mo.,

A New Station for Scott's Spleenwort

CLARA G. MARK

While on a fern-collecting trip in the southern part of Hocking County, Ohio, last July, the writer found a single plant of Scott's Spleenwort, *Asplenium ebenoides*, growing on the face of a ledge of sandstone. This county is an interesting one botanically and has been for years a favorite collecting ground for the botanists of central Ohio. Twenty-two years ago Dr. W. A. Kellerman collected a plant of this species from a sand-

⁵ *EQUISETUM HYEMALE* L, Sp, Pl, 1062. 1753.

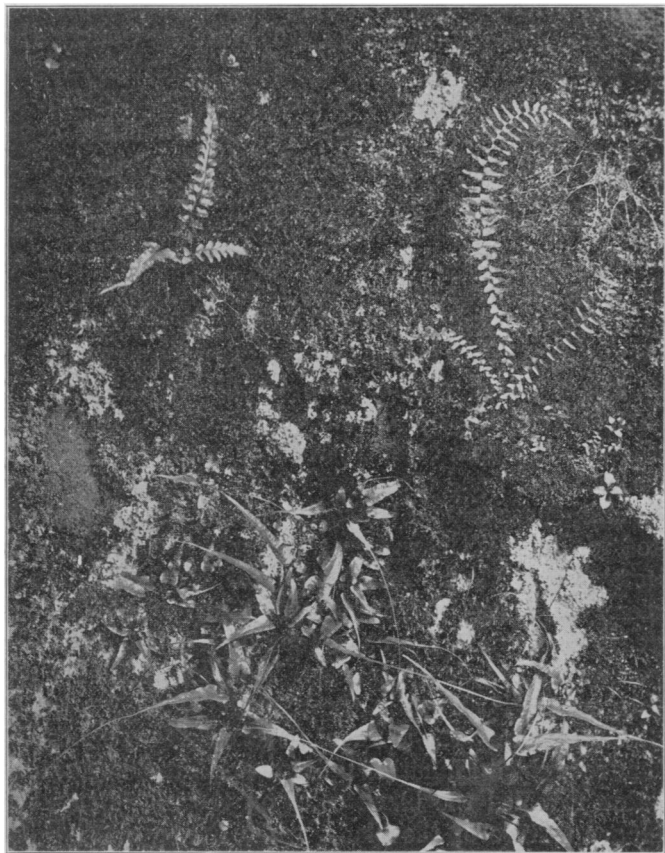
⁶ *EQUISETUM LAEVIGATUM* A, Braun: Engelm, Am, Journ, Sci, 46: 87, 1844.

Equisetum hyemale Am. Auct. in large part, not L. 1753.

Equisetum hyemale intermedium A. A. Eaton, Fern Bull. 10: 121. 1902 in part.

⁷ *EQUISETUM KANSANUM* Schaffner, Contr. Bot. Lab. Ohio State Univ, No. 70. Nov. 1912.

Equisetum laevigatum A. A. Eaton and Am. Auct. in part, not A, Braun, 1844.



Scott's Spleenwort growing on smooth mossy face of sandstone cliff,
in association with Ebony Spleenwort and Walking Fern.

stone cliff in the northern part of the county, about twenty miles from where the one was found this summer. That is the only record given in the state herbarium of any earlier occurrence of the species in the state.

Throughout the greater part of Hocking County the bed rock is a massive, coarse-grained sandstone, which forms high cliffs, especially along the smaller valleys. At the heads of the valleys there are in many cases extensive rock shelters formed by the overhang of the sandstone, and in these "caves" and along the cliffs grow many of the smaller rock-loving ferns. Maiden-hair Spleenwort and Pinnatifid Spleenwort are two of the most common species, the former growing usually on moist or dripping rocks, the latter in niches on the drier ledges. Both of these species grow most commonly on ledges pitted and seamed by differential erosion. Mountain Spleenwort occurs occasionally in a similar habitat. Where a comparatively smooth face of a cliff has become covered with moss Walking fern is sometimes found in dense mats. On such a mossy cliff and associated with the Walking fern was found the specimen of Scott's Spleenwort. At the top of the ledge was a colony of Ebony Spleenwort, and one plant of that species was growing on the face of the cliff near the specimen of Scott's Spleenwort. The association of the three species is shown in the photograph.

At first glance the plant of Scott's Spleenwort somewhat resembled Pinnatifid Spleenwort, but closer examination revealed the black color on the rachis and the thinner texture of the blade, while the segments were more irregular and some of them more pointed than in the commoner species. Perhaps the most readily noticeable difference was in the habitat and manner of growth. The Scott's Spleenwort has a more erect and spreading habit, while the Pinnatifid is characteristically a somewhat drooping species. Also the growth of the Scott's

Spleenwort on the smooth mossy face of the cliff is in distinct contrast to that of the Pinnatifid Spleenwort in dry niches and pockets of the cliffs.

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The Polypody

LILLIAN A. COLE

On May 20, 1916, I drove to Sennebec pond in Knox County, Maine, fastened my horse in somebody's doorway and then walked along a field road shaded by trees and carpeted with young ferns.

I ascended a hill of 500 feet elevation and found flowers and ferns that were a delight. Previously I had hunted for *Viola lanceolata* in low lands, for the books had told me to do so, so great was my surprise, when I found it on the summit of this hill of ledges, exposed to the sun's rays nearly all day.

Wending my way down to a brook in a ravine, I found a real fern garden—Nature's own production and handiwork. With difficulty, over wet stepping places and among brambles, I came to a boulder in that brook and found some polypody ferns that looked different than any I had ever seen. The fronds were larger, darker green, more lance-triangular, and as I turned them over, instead of the great big staring fruit dots I found small sori. I wondered if I had made a discovery of a new variety for our country.

These plants grew on an angle of the rock of but few degrees slant. They were directly over the water and were shaded by the surrounding trees.

I wondered how they could cling and thrive so well. In the careful effort to remove a few specimens, I fairly lifted a sheet of their intertwining roots, with a very little soil of leaf mold and sand which they were holding for themselves.